

**ORDINANCE NO. (8787) (Amended from 8572)**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING DIVISION 10 (COMMENCING WITH SECTION 610.101) TO TITLE 6 TO THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES RELATING TO AMBULANCES AND NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego, State of California, do ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. DIVISION 10 (commencing with SECTION 610.101) is hereby amended to TITLE 6 of the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances to read as follows:

**DIVISION 10**

**AMBULANCE, CRITICAL CARE, AND NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

**CHAPTER 1**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 610.101 PURPOSE.**

(a) The emergency and non-emergency transportation of sick, disabled or injured persons is a matter closely affecting the public interest and welfare, it is the policy of the Board of Supervisors of San Diego County to see that persons requiring ground or air ambulance, critical care, and non-emergency medical transportation services receive such services, and that such services are reasonably available and accessible to persons within the County; and

(b) Every ground ambulance, critical care transport, and non-emergency medical transport vehicle that serves persons in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County shall meet certain minimum levels and standards of equipment, staffing and mechanical reliability.

(c) To implement under the authority of California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 8, Sections 10032 and 10036 in order to provide that air ambulances serving the County shall be integrated into the regional emergency medical services system and shall meet minimum levels and standards of equipment, staffing, configuration, and mechanical reliability.

**Section 610.102 EXEMPTIONS.**

(a) This Division shall not apply to vehicles operated as ground ambulances, critical care transport vehicles, and non-emergency medical transport vehicles, or to persons engaged in providing service where ambulance, critical care transport, and non-emergency medical transport services are rendered at the request of any county communications center or at the request of any law enforcement or fire protection agency during any "state of war emergency", "state of emergency", or "local emergency" as defined in California Government Code Section 8558 or during any period (not over 30 days, but

renewable every 30 days) when the Board of Supervisors or the Chief Administrative Officer or his or her designee has determined that adequate emergency ambulance service, critical care transport service, or non-emergency medical transport services will not be available from existing permittees.

(b) This Division shall not apply to ground ambulances, critical care transport vehicles, or non-emergency medical transport vehicles and to persons engaged in the transport of patients where the transport initiated outside San Diego County boundaries for transport into the County.

(c) This Division does not apply to ground ambulances, critical care transport vehicles, or non-emergency medical transport vehicles operating solely within an incorporated area.

(d) Not for profit agencies, volunteer public safety agencies, or agencies permitted by another governmental entity shall not be required to pay the fees imposed by Section 610.501 of this Division. All other portions of this Division shall apply.

(e) Agencies of the United States Government operating air or ground ambulances are exempted from all portions of this Division.

(f) Governmental agencies operating air or ground ambulances twenty-four hours per day staffed with full time paid employees shall be exempted from the application process identified in Sections 610.201 through 610.211, as well as the fees imposed by Section 610.501 of this Division. All other portions of this Division shall apply.

Section 610.103 DEFINITIONS. Unless otherwise specifically provided, the following terms as used in this Division have the following meanings:

(a) **Air Ambulance.** An aircraft specially constructed, modified, or equipped and used for the purpose of transporting sick, injured, convalescent, infirm, or otherwise incapacitated persons, and whose medical flight crew has a minimum two attendants, one of whom shall be licensed in advanced life support.

(b) **Ambulance.** "Ambulance" generally refers to a "Ground Ambulance" which is any vehicle specially constructed, modified or equipped and used for the purpose of transporting sick, injured, disabled, convalescent, infirm, or otherwise incapacitated persons, including vehicles used for critical care transport. "Ambulance" does not include a gurney van or a non-medical transport vehicle designed for the transportation of persons who are wheelchair users.

(c) **Ambulance Attendant.** "Ambulance Attendant" means a person who is as a minimum certified as an Emergency Medical Technician-I (EMT-I) whose primary duty is to care for the sick, injured or disabled persons.

(d) **Ambulance Driver.** "Ambulance Driver" means a person properly licensed by the State of California as an ambulance driver and who is as a minimum certified as an Emergency Medical Technician-I (EMT-I).

(e) **Ambulance Provider.** "Ambulance Provider" means a person, firm, partnership, corporation, municipality, government agency or other organization which furnishes or offers to furnish ambulance service to the public, its employees, visitors and/or residents of San Diego County. "Ambulance Provider" includes all organizations that provide or operate an ambulance on private property whether or

not required to do so by local, state or federal law and/or regulation.

(f) **Ambulance Provider's Permit.** "Ambulance Provider's Permit" means written authorization by the County to provide emergency or non-emergency ambulance service within the County.

(g) **Ambulance Service.** "Ambulance Service" means the activity, business, or service for hire, profit, or otherwise, of being prepared for, responding to requests for and/or transporting one or more persons by ambulance on or in any of the streets, roads, highways, alleys, or any public way or place in the unincorporated areas of the County. "Ambulance Service" includes all organizations that provide or operate an ambulance on private property whether or not required to do so by local, state, or federal law and/or regulation.

(h) **Code I, II, or III Calls.**

(1) **Code I** - Any non-emergency transportation of patients without the use of red light and siren.

(2) **Code II** - An emergency where time is critical, requiring immediate response by the Ambulance Provider, without the use of red light and siren.

(3) **Code III** - An emergency where time is critical, requiring immediate response with the use of red light and siren.

(i) **Critical Care Transport.** "Critical Care Transport" means any emergency or non-emergency transport of a patient from one health care facility or acute care facility to another where the skill level required in the care of that patient during transport exceeds the basic life support, Emergency Medical Technician-I (EMT-I) level and scope of training.

(j) **Critical Care Transport Provider.** "Critical Care Transport Provider" means a person, firm, partnership, corporation, municipality, government agency or other organization which furnishes or offers to furnish critical care transport.

(k) **Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit.** "Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit" means written authorization by the County to provide emergency or non-emergency critical care transport within the County.

(l) **Emergency Call.** "Emergency Call" means a request for an ambulance to transport or assist persons in apparent sudden need of medical attention; or, an ambulance transport that is initially classified as a non-emergency call that becomes an emergency call due to a change in the patient's medical condition; or, in a medical emergency, as determined by a physician, to transport blood, or any therapeutic device, accessory to such device, or tissue or organ for transplant.

(m) **Emergency Medical Technician I (EMT-I).** "EMT-I" means an individual trained and certified in basic life support care in accordance with the provisions contained in Title 22, California Code of Regulations, Division 9, Chapter 2, et seq.

(n) **Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P).** "EMT-P" means an individual trained and licensed in advanced life support care in accordance with the provisions contained in Title 22,

California Code of Regulations, Division 9, Chapter 4, et seq. and accredited by the Medical Director of the San Diego County Division of Emergency Medical Services.

(o) **Emergency Service.** "Emergency Service" means the service performed in response to an emergency call. Emergency service also includes transportation of a patient, regardless of a presumption of death of the patient, or transportation of a body for the purpose of making an anatomical gift, as provided in Section 12811 of the California Vehicle Code, and the California Uniform Anatomical Gift Act.

(p) **Gurney Van Transport.** Any vehicle specially constructed, modified or equipped and/or used for the purpose of transporting patients who cannot travel in an upright, sitting position and for whom the need for any medical care, treatment or procedure is not required, likely, or foreseeable.

(q) **Interfacility Rotorcraft.** A helicopter staffed with two or more licensed or certified health care providers one of whom shall be a California Registered Nurse or Physician and Surgeon, equipped and configured as an "ALS Air Ambulance" per the regulations of the FAA, the California EMS Authority and the San Diego County Air Medical Services Plan used to provide care to ill and injured individuals between licensed health care facilities.

(r) **Non-emergency Call.** "Non-emergency Call" means an ambulance call for a purpose other than an emergency.

(s) **Non-emergency Medical Transport Provider.** Any person, firm, partnership, corporation, municipality, government agency or other organization which furnishes or offers to furnish non-emergency medical transport service.

(t) **Non-emergency Medical Transport Provider's Permit.** Written authorization by the County to provide non-emergency medical transport service.

(u) **Non-emergency Medical Transport Service.** The activity, business or service, for hire, profit, or otherwise, of being prepared for, responding to requests for and/or transporting one or more persons by gurney van, or wheelchair van on or in any of the streets, roads, highways, alleys or any public way or place in the unincorporated areas of the County.

(v) **Non-emergency Medical Vehicles.** Any vehicle which has been specially constructed, modified, or equipped and/or used for the purpose of transporting clients either for profit or non-profit, who are wheelchair users under the following categories:

- (1) hospitals
- (2) convalescent homes
- (3) retirement homes
- (4) all homes receiving funding for the board and care of residents living in those homes
- (5) non-emergency medical transport providers.
- (6) nutrition centers

(7) senior centers

(8) any other like social service categories not regulated by the California Highway Patrol, Metropolitan Transit Development Board,

(w) **Permit Officer.** "Permit Officer" Means the Director of the San Diego County Department of Health Services or his/her designee.

(x) **Primary Response Rotorcraft.** A helicopter which is an integrated component of the prehospital EMS system, staffed with a minimum of two Advanced Life Support providers one of whom shall be a California Registered Nurse or licensed Physician and Surgeon, equipped and configured as an "ALS Air Ambulance" per the regulations of the FAA, the California EMS Authority and the San Diego County Air Medical Services Plan, used to respond and provide care to ill and injured individuals at licensed aerodromes and heliports or unimproved landing sites in the County.

(y) **Private Call.** "Private Call" means any call for services that are received by an ambulance provider other than through the 9-1-1 system.

(z) **Special Events.** Any event, including, but not limited to concerts, sporting events or contests, and other events that place a grouping or gathering of people in one general locale sufficient in number, or subject to activity that creates the need to have one or more ambulances pre-positioned at the event.

(aa) **Vehicle Permit.** A permit decal or certificate issued by the Permit Officer indicating that an ambulance or other permitted vehicle has passed inspection according to the standards established herein. This permit is required for each vehicle operated in addition to the ambulance operator's permit.

## CHAPTER 2

### GROUND AMBULANCE/CRITICAL CARE TRANSPORT PERMITS

SECTION 610.201 REQUIRED. No person (either as owner, agent or otherwise) shall furnish, operate, conduct, maintain or otherwise engage in, or offer or profess to engage in ambulance service or critical care transport in the unincorporated areas of the County unless the person holds a currently valid Ambulance Provider's and/or Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit.

SECTION 610.202 APPLICATION - FORMS. Each application for an Ambulance Provider's and/or Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit shall be made upon forms prescribed by the County.

SECTION 610.203 APPLICATION - REQUIRED DATA. Each applicant who desires an Ambulance Provider's and/or Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit shall submit the following data:

(a) Applicant's name and business address;

- (b) The name(s) under which the applicant has engaged, does, or proposes to engage in ambulance service;
- (c) The names and addresses of the applicant, registered owner(s), partner(s), officer(s), director(s) and all shareholders who hold or control 10% or more of the stock of the applicant;
- (d) A statement of fact (one from principal owner and one from designated physician medical director if CCT service is provided);
- (e) A statement of good faith (one from principal owner and one from designated physician medical director if CCT service is provided);
- (f) A copy of the designated physician medical director's State of California physician's/surgeon's license;
- (g) and a statement of legal history, one each from the applicant, all registered owner(s), partner(s), officer(s), director(s), and controlling shareholder(s), including criminal convictions and civil judgements;
- (h) An application for criminal record check, one each from the applicant, all registered owner(s), partner(s), officer(s), director(s), and controlling shareholder(s);
- (i) A resume specifying the education, training, and experience of the applicant in the care and transportation of patients;
- (j) A statement that the applicant owns or has under his control, in good mechanical condition, required equipment to consistently provide quality ambulance service, and that the applicant owns or has access to suitable facilities for maintaining its equipment in a clean and sanitary condition;
- (k) A description of the applicant's program for maintenance of the vehicles/aircraft;
- (l) A description of the applicant's training and orientation programs for ambulance attendants, dispatchers, ambulance drivers, pilots and maintenance staff;
- (m) Evidence of insurance coverage as required by Sections 610.607, 610.608 and 610.805;
- (n) A list of the full names and California physician and surgeon license numbers of all other physicians employed by provider;
- (o) A list of all registered nurses employed which includes each person's license number and expiration date;
- (p) A description of the locations from which ambulance services will be offered, noting the hours of operation;
- (q) A description of the number and type, frequency and private line codes of the vehicles' radios, and phone numbers of the vehicles' cellular phones;

(r) A description of each aircraft or ambulance including: the make, model, year of manufacture, vehicle identification number; current state or federal license number; the current odometer reading of the vehicle; and the color scheme, insignia, name, monogram and other distinguishing characteristics of the vehicle;

(s) A list of all pilots, ambulance drivers and attendants which identifies each persons' EMT certification/license number and issuing jurisdiction, CPR Certification, California Driver's License, and Ambulance Driver's Certificate, or aircraft pilot's license and equipment rating with expiration date of each;

(t) For applicants that are privately owned ground ambulance companies, an affirmation that the applicant possesses and maintains currently valid California Highway Patrol Inspection Reports for each vehicle listed in the application, and a copy of the license issued by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol (in accordance with Section 2501 of the California Vehicle Code);

(u) The applicant may be required to submit such other information as the Permit Officer deems necessary for determination of compliance with this Division;

(v) In the case of aircraft, FAA aircraft license and other federal aviation regulation requirements (FARS) as may be required to demonstrate adherence with the County's Air Medical Service Plan.

SECTION 610.204 APPLICATION - ISSUANCE. Within 30 days of receipt of an application, the Permit Officer shall make a determination regarding the issuance of the applied for permit.

SECTION 610.205 APPLICATION - DENIAL. The Permit Officer may order the denial of an application for a permit or a renewal thereof if he/she finds:

(a) The applicant, or any partner, officer, director, representative or agent thereof has knowingly made a false, misleading or fraudulent statement of a material fact in the application or in any reports or other documents required to be filed with the Permit Officer pursuant to this Division;

(b) The applicant is not the legal owner or operator of the ambulance or critical care transport service;

(c) The applicant was previously the holder of a permit issued under this Division, which permit has been suspended or revoked and the terms or conditions of the suspension or revocation have not been fulfilled;

(d) The applicant has acted in the capacity of a permitted person or firm under this Division without having a valid permit therefore;

(e) The applicant has entered a plea of guilty to, or been found guilty of, or have been convicted of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, including any offense relating to the use of, sale, possession or transportation of narcotics, habit forming drugs or any other controlled substances, and the time for appeal has elapsed or the judgement of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, irrespective of an order granting probation following such conviction suspending the imposition of sentence, or of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing such person to withdraw his plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the plea or verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation of

information; or

(f) The applicant has violated any provisions of this Division or any provisions of any other ordinance or law relating to ambulance or critical care transport services.

The Permit Officer shall notify the applicant in writing of the denial within 30 days of the receipt of the application. Such notice shall be either sent by mail to the applicant's last address provided in the application or be personally delivered, and shall set forth the reasons for such denial of application. Whenever an application for a Permit is denied, the applicant may request a hearing from the Permit Officer. Such request shall be made in writing and filed with the Permit Officer within ten days of personal delivery of the notice of denial. If the notice of denial is mailed, applicant has an additional five days to file a hearing request. The hearing shall be held not more than 20 days from the date of receipt of said request for hearing and the Permit Officer shall notify the applicant of the time and place of such hearing. The hearing shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in Title 1, Division 6, Chapter 1 of the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances. The applicant shall also be entitled to the appeal provisions of Section 610.405 following the hearing before the Permit Officer.

SECTION 610.206 DECISIONS: FINALITY. The decision of the Permit Officer rendered pursuant to this Chapter shall be final, unless an appeal is filed with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

SECTION 610.207 TERM. Provider permits issued under this Division shall be valid for a period of one year unless earlier suspended, revoked or terminated.

(a) Vehicle permits shall expire concurrently with provider permit regardless of when vehicle permit was issued.

(b) Partial year vehicle permits shall be issued for vehicles or aircraft put into operation within eleven months or less of current provider permit expiration. Partial year vehicle permits will be issued at one twelfth the cost of a full year vehicle permit for each month remaining on the Ambulance Provider's Permit .

SECTION 610.208 APPLICATION - CHANGE OF DATA. Each applicant and Permit Owner shall report to the Permit Officer any change in the data required in Section 610.203 within ten days of the effective date of the change, except that any changes in the data required in Sections 610.203 (s) and (o) need only be reported annually as required by Section 610.210 hereof.

SECTION 610.209 TRANSFER OF PROVIDER PERMIT. The Permit Officer shall be notified of any transfer of a Provider Permit to another person, partnership, corporation or other entity (the "Permit Transferee") within 30 days of the effective date of such transfer. Upon receipt of such notification, the Permit Officer will require the processing of a new application for a Permit; notice of a requirement for a new application must be sent by certified mail to the Permit Transferee from the Permit Officer within ten days from the receipt by the Permit Officer of the transfer notice.

(a) In the event one permitted provider acquires the operations of another permitted provider, the acquiring provider shall submit to the Permit Officer within 30 days, a complete listing of all vehicles acquired or liquidated.

(b) Vehicles transferred from one permitted provider to another permitted provider as a consequence of a merger/acquisition, shall have the existing County Department of Health Services (DHS) decal removed and returned to the Permit Officer. Each vehicle shall be reinspected by the Permit Officer.



SECTION 610.210 RENEWAL OF PERMIT. Applicants for renewal of an Ambulance Provider's and/or Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit under this Division shall annually file with the Permit Officer an application in writing, on a form furnished by the Permit Officer, which shall include any changes in the information required in Section 610.203 hereof from the current application on file. The application for renewal shall be filed with the Permit Officer at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the current permit, and be accompanied by a renewal fee. Renewal of an Ambulance Provider's or Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit shall require conformance with all requirements of this Ordinance as upon issuance of an initial permit. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as requiring the automatic renewal of a Permit upon its expiration and the burden of proof respecting compliance of all the requirements of this Division and of entitlement of a Permit shall be with the applicant for renewal.

SECTION 610.211 TEMPORARY PERMIT. The Permit Officer may authorize a temporary permit to ground ambulance provider based outside the County and properly licensed by the California Highway Patrol up to 30 event days for special events. Temporary Permittees shall meet all requirements of this Division.

SECTION 610.212 ABANDONMENT OF PROVIDER PERMIT. Upon closure, sale or liquidation of business, provider shall remove all DHS decals from vehicles and return the decals to the Division of EMS within 30 days. Provider shall also return, within 30 days, all other County owned property (in good operating condition) issued or loaned to the provider or be liable for the cost of same.

### **CHAPTER 3**

#### **NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT PERMITS**

SECTION 610.301 PERMIT REQUIRED. No person (either as owner, agent or otherwise) shall furnish, operate, conduct, maintain, or otherwise engage in or advertise, offer or profess to engage in non-emergency medical transport service within the unincorporated areas of the County unless the person holds a currently valid San Diego County Non-Emergency Medical Transport Permit.

(a) Providers who are currently permitted by the Metropolitan Transit Development Board, or any other incorporated municipality, will be considered as having met the requirements of this Division and issued a County Non-Emergency Medical Transport Provider's Permit only after submitting the documents outlined in Section 610.303 of this ordinance.

(b) Any social service agency who contracts with any organization or entity who is regulated in Section 610.301 (a) shall be issued a County Non-Emergency Medical Transport Provider's Permit without additional investigation or fee.

SECTION 610.302 APPLICATION - FORMS. Each application for a Non-Emergency Medical Transport Provider's Permit shall be made upon forms prescribed by the County.

SECTION 610.303 APPLICATION - REQUIRED DATA. Applications may be approved by two separate processes by which persons seeking the required San Diego County Non-emergency

Medical Transport Provider's Permit may apply. Potential providers may apply for a Permit by Endorsement of the MTDB Permit or a Permit by Direct Application to the County. Each applicant for a Non-Emergency Medical Transport Provider's Permit shall submit the following data:

- (a) Permit by Endorsement of the MTDB Permit
  - (1) Copy of completed and approved MTDB paratransit application;
  - (2) Copy of an approved MTDB provider application and vehicle medallion numbers;
  - (3) Applicant's name and business address;
  - (4) The name(s), under which the applicant has, does, or proposes to engage in non-emergency medical transport service;
  - (5) The name and addresses of the applicant, registered owner(s), partner(s), officer(s), director(s) and all shareholders who hold or control 10% or more of the stock of the applicant;
  - (6) A Certificate of Consent to Self Insure issued by the California State Director of Industrial Relations, or a Certificate of Worker's Compensation Insurance as required in Section 610.705;
  - (7) Proof of liability insurance as required in Section 610.704;
  - (8) A description of the number and type, frequency and private line codes of the vehicles' radio, and phone numbers of the vehicles' cellular phones;
  - (9) A description of each gurney van and/or wheelchair van including the make, model, year of manufacture, vehicle identification number, the current odometer reading of the vehicle; and the color scheme, insignia, name, monogram or other distinguishing characteristics;
  - (10) A roster of all transport personnel that lists the type and expiration date of each person's standard first aid certification and each person's California driver's license number and expiration date;
  - (11) An accompanying Permit fees pursuant to Section 610.501 of this Division;
  - (12) The applicant may be required to submit such other information as the Permit Officer deems necessary for determination of compliance with this Division; or,
- (b) Permit by Direct Application to the County:
  - (1) Completed County non-emergency vehicle permit application;

- (2) Applicant's name and business address;
- (3) The name and addresses of the applicant, registered owner(s), partner(s), officer(s), director(s), and all the shareholders who hold or control 10% or more of the stock of the applicant;
- (4) A statement of fact from the principal owner;
- (5) A statement of good faith from the principal owner;
- (6) A statement of legal history, one each from the applicant, all registered owner(s), partner(s), officer(s), director(s), and controlling shareholder(s), including criminal convictions and civil judgements;
- (7) An application for a criminal record check, one each from the applicant, all registered owner(s), partner(s), officer(s), director(s), controlling shareholder(s), including criminal convictions and civil judgements. Each application for criminal record check will be processed by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Each person required to submit an application for criminal record check will also be required to complete a Department of Justice fingerprint card;
- (8) A resume specifying the education, training, and experience of the applicant in the business of transportation services;
- (9) A description of the applicant's program for maintenance of vehicles;
- (10) A description of the applicants training and orientation programs for transport personnel, including proof of ability to staff each non-emergency medical transport vehicle with person(s) possessing, at a minimum, a current American Red Cross Standard First Aid Certification, or equivalent;
- (11) A Certificate of Consent to Self Insure issued by the California State Director of Industrial Relations, or a Certificate of Worker's Compensation Insurance as required in Section 610.705;
- (12) Proof of liability insurance as required in Section 610.704;
- (13) A description of the number and type, frequency and private line codes of the vehicles' radio, and phone numbers of the vehicles' cellular phones;
- (14) A description of each non-emergency medical transport vehicle including the make, model, year of manufacture, vehicle identification number, the current odometer reading of the vehicle; and the color scheme, insignia, name, monogram or other distinguishing characteristics;
- (15) A roster of all transport personnel that lists the type and expiration date of each person's standard first aid certification and each person's California driver's license number and expiration date;

- (16) The accompanying Permit fee pursuant to Section 610.501 of this Division;
- (17) The applicant may be required to submit such other information as the Permit Officer deems necessary for determination of compliance with this Division;
- (18) The applicant shall allow the Permit Officer or his/her designee to inspect all vehicles to be used for non-emergency medical transport services.

SECTION 610.304 APPLICATION - PERMIT ISSUANCE. Within 30 days of receipt of a completed County application, the Permit Officer shall make a determination of whether the applicant meets all requirements of this Division.

SECTION 610.305 APPLICATION - DENIAL. The Permit Officer may order the denial of an application for a permit or a renewal thereof if he/she finds:

- (a) The applicant, or any partner, officer, director, representative or agent thereof has knowingly made a false, misleading or fraudulent statement of a material fact in the application or in any reports or other documents required to be filed with the Permit Officer pursuant to this Division;
- (b) The applicant is not the owner or operator of the non-emergency medical transport service;
- (c) The applicant was previously the holder of a permit issued under this Division which has been suspended or revoked and the terms or conditions of the suspension or revocation have not been fulfilled;
- (d) The applicant has acted in the capacity of a permitted person of firm under this Division without having a valid permit therefore;
- (e) The applicant has entered a plea of guilty to, or been found guilty of, or been convicted of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, including any offense relating to the use of, sale, possession or transportation of narcotics, habit forming drugs or any other controlled substances, and the time for appeal has elapsed or the judgement of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, irrespective of an order granting probation following such conviction suspending the imposition of sentence, or of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing such person to withdraw his plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the plea of not guilty, or dismissing the accusation of information; or
- (f) The applicant has violated any provisions of this Division or any provisions of any other ordinance or law relating to or regulating non emergency medical transport services.

The Permit Officer shall notify the applicant in writing of the denial within 30 days of the receipt of the application. Such notice shall be either sent by mail to the applicant's last address provided in the application or be personally delivered, and shall set forth the reasons for such denial of application.

Whenever an application for a Permit is denied, the applicant may request a hearing from the Permit Officer. Such request shall be made in writing and filed with the Permit Officer within ten days of

personal delivery of the notice of denial. If the notice of denial is mailed, applicant has an additional five days to file a hearing request. The hearing shall be held not more than 20 days from the date of receipt of said request for hearing and the Permit Officer shall notify the applicant of the time and place of such hearing. The hearing shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in Title 1, Division 6, Chapter 1 of the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances. The applicant shall also be entitled to the appeal provisions of Section 610.405 following the hearing before the Permit Officer.

SECTION 610.306 DECISIONS: FINALITY. The decision of the Permit Officer rendered pursuant to this Chapter shall be final, unless an appeal is filed with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

SECTION 610.307 TERM. Provider Permits issued under this Division shall be valid for a period of one year unless earlier suspended, revoked or terminated.

SECTION 610.308 APPLICATION - CHANGE OF DATA. Each applicant and Permit Owner shall report to the Permit Officer any change in the data required in Section 610.303 within ten days of the effective date of the change.

SECTION 610.309 APPLICATION - TRANSFER OF PROVIDER PERMIT. The Permit Officer will be notified of any transfer of a permit to another person, partnership, corporation or other entity (the "Permit Transferee") within 30 days of the effective date of such transfer. Upon receipt of such notification, the Permit Officer shall require the processing of a new application for a Permit; notice of a requirement for a new application must be sent by certified mail to the Permit Transferee from the Permit Officer within ten days from the receipt by the Permit Officer of the transfer notice.

(a) In the event one permitted provider acquires the operations of another permitted provider, the acquiring provider shall submit to the EMS Permit Officer within 30 days, a complete listing of all vehicles acquired (put into operation or liquidated).

(b) Vehicles transferred from one permitted provider to another permitted provider as a consequence of a merger/acquisition, must have the existing County Department of Health Services (DHS) decal removed and returned to the Division of EMS. New DHS decals shall be issued for all vehicles placed into operation.

SECTION 610.310 ABANDONMENT OF PROVIDER PERMIT. Upon closure, sale or liquidation of business, provider must remove all DHS decals from vehicles and return the decals to the Division of EMS.

SECTION 610.311 RENEWAL OF PROVIDER PERMIT. Applicants for renewal of a Non-Emergency Medical Transport Provider's Permit under this Division shall annually file with the Permit Officer an application in writing, on a form furnished by the Permit Officer, which shall include any changes in the information required in Section 610.303. The application for renewal shall be submitted to the Permit Officer at least 30 days prior to the expiration of the current permit and be accompanied by a renewal fee. Renewal of a Non-Emergency Medical Transport Provider's Permit shall require conformance with all requirements of this Division as upon issuance of the initial permit. Nothing in this Division shall be construed as requiring automatic renewal of a Permit upon its expiration and the burden of proof respecting compliance of all the requirements of this Division and of entitlement of a Permit shall be with the applicant for renewal.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **PERMIT SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION**

SECTION 610.401 PERMIT SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION. In the event that any person holding a permit issued pursuant to this Division shall violate or cause or permit to be violated any of the provisions of this Division, or any provisions of any other ordinance or law relating to ambulance, critical care, or non-emergency transportation services, or for any reason for which the permit application could have been denied, the Permit Officer may suspend or revoke the permit after the permittee has been given the opportunity for a hearing as provided for in Section 610.402.

The Permit Officer shall post for a period of ten days the name and business address of any permittee receiving a notice of suspension or revocation along with the fact that any interested member of the general public can submit information regarding the proposed suspension or revocation along with the fact that any interested member of the general public can submit such information regarding the proposed suspension or revocation. Such information shall be submitted in writing and shall be delivered to the office of the Permit Officer within five days of the last day of posting. The names and business addresses shall be posted in the office of the Permit Officer.

SECTION 610.402 HEARINGS - PERMIT OFFICER. In any case where the Permit Officer determines that a permit issued pursuant to this Division should be suspended or revoked, the Permit Officer shall prepare a written notice of suspension or revocation, which includes a statement of the proposed action, a concise explanation of the reasons for the proposed action, the statutory basis relied upon for such action, and an explanation of the permittee's right to request a hearing from the Permit Officer. Such notice shall be sent by certified mail to the permittee's last address provided in the application or be personally delivered, at least ten days prior to the effective date of such action. If within five days after receipt of such mailing or delivery the permittee or an authorized representative requests in writing a hearing from the Permit Officer, the Permit Officer shall immediately set a hearing and shall set forth in writing and send to the permittee by means of certified mail or hand delivery, notice of the time, date, and place of such hearing. The hearing shall be held not more than 30 days from the date of receipt of said request for hearing. The hearing shall be conducted by a person designated by the Permit Officer. The person designated as Hearing Officer shall not have been connected in any manner in the decision to take the proposed action which is the subject of such hearing. No hearings shall be continued except upon hearing good cause.

The hearing shall be conducted to determine the existence of any facts which constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the permit. The permittee may have the assistance of counsel or may appear by counsel and shall have the right to present evidence. In the event that the permittee, or counsel representing the permittee fails to appear at the hearing, the evidence of the existence of facts which constitute grounds for the suspension or revocation of the permit shall be considered unrefuted. The decision of the Hearing Officer shall be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Officer will give a verbal decision; provided, however, that in the discretion of the Hearing Officer, the decision may be delayed and given in writing within two days. In any case where a verbal decision is given at the close of the hearing, the Hearing Officer shall confirm the decision in writing within two days. The written decision shall set forth the findings of fact

and the reasons for the decision and a copy mailed to the permittee or an authorized representative. The decision of the Hearing Officer shall be posted in the office of the Permit Officer for a period of five days along with the available procedures for appeal. A hearing held under this section or the failure of the permittee to request such a hearing or to appear at the scheduled time for such hearing in no way deprives the permittee of the right to appeal as provided for in Section 610.405 of this chapter.

SECTION 610.403 STAY OF SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION. The effect of a decision of the Hearing Officer to suspend or revoke a permit shall be stayed while an appeal to the Board of Supervisors is pending or until the time for filing such appeal has expired.

There shall be no stay of the effect of the decision of the Hearing Officer upholding the denial of any permit.

SECTION 610.404 EXCEPTION TO HEARING PROCEDURE. When, in the opinion of the Permit Officer, there is a clear and immediate threat to the safety and protection of the public, the Permit Officer may suspend a permit without a hearing. The Permit Officer shall prepare a written notice of suspension, which includes a statement of the action, the statutory basis relied upon for such action, and an explanation of the permittee's right to request a hearing from the Permit Officer. Such notice shall be either sent by certified mail to the permittee's last address provided in the application or be personally delivered. The permittee may request a hearing from the Permit Officer within five days of receipt of notification that the permit has been suspended. The Permit Officer shall notify the permittee of the time and place of such hearing and the hearing shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in Section 610.402 of this chapter. The hearing shall be held not more than 15 days from the date of receipt of said request for hearing. Following the hearing the permittee affected may appeal the decision in the manner prescribed in Section 610.405 of this chapter. The decision shall not be stayed during pendency of such hearing or appeal.

SECTION 610.405 APPEAL. Within ten days after receipt of the decision of the Hearing Officer any permittee affected by the decision may appeal such decision by filing with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors a written appeal briefly setting forth the reasons why such denial, suspension, revocation or other decision is not proper.

Upon receipt of such written appeal, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall assign the appeal to a Hearing Officer selected by the Clerk on a rotating basis from a list of qualified Hearing Officers approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Hearing Officer so assigned shall schedule a date for hearing within ten days after the date of assignment of the appeal by the Clerk. The hearing shall be held not more than 30 days from time of assignment by the Clerk to the Hearing Officer. At least ten days prior to the date of the hearing on the appeal the Clerk shall notify the appellant and the Permit Officer of the date and place of the hearing. The Clerk of the Board shall also have posted in the office of the Permit Officer the time and place set for the appeal for a period of five days prior to the date of such appeal. The Hearing Officer is authorized to issue subpoenas, to administer oaths and to conduct the hearing on the appeal. At such hearing the Permit Officer and the appellant may present evidence relevant to the denial, suspension, revocation or other decision of the Permit Officer. The Hearing Officer shall receive evidence and shall rule on the admissibility of evidence and on questions of law. At the hearing, any person may present evidence in opposition to, or in support of, appellant's case.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Officer may uphold the denial, suspension, revocation or other decision of the Permit Officer, or the Hearing Officer may allow that which has been denied,

reinstate that which has been suspended or revoked, or modify or reverse any other Permit Officer's decision which is subject of the appeal. The Hearing Officer shall, within five days of the announcement of a decision, file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors written findings of fact and conclusions of law and the decision. The decision of the Hearing Officer is final when filed with the Clerk.

#### SECTION 610.406 EVIDENCE.

- (a) Oral evidence shall be taken only on oath or affirmation.
- (b) Each party shall have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues even though that matter was not covered in the direct examination; to impeach any witness regardless of which party first called the witness to testify; and to rebut the evidence against the party. If respondent does not testify in his own behalf, the respondent may be called and examined as if under cross examination.
- (c) The hearing need not be conducted according to technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses. Any relevant evidence shall be admitted if it is the sort of evidence on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rule which might make improper the admission of such evidence over objection in civil actions, hearsay evidence may be used for the purpose of supplementing or explaining any direct evidence but shall not be sufficient in itself to support a finding unless it would be admissible over objection in civil actions. The rules of privilege shall be effective to the same extent that they are now or hereafter may be recognized in civil actions and irrelevant and unduly repetitious evidence shall be excluded.
- (d) The hearing shall be conducted in the English language. The proponent of any testimony to be offered by a witness who does not proficiently speak the English language shall provide an interpreter, approved by the Hearing Officer conducting the proceeding as proficient in the English language and the language in which the witness will testify, to serve as interpreter during the hearing. The cost of the interpreter shall be paid by the party providing the interpreter. The Board of Supervisors may compile and publish a list of interpreters known to be proficient in various languages. Any person whose name appears upon such list shall be deemed to be approved by the Hearing Officer hearing the case.



## **CHAPTER 5**

### **FEES**

SECTION 610.501 FEES. The County Board of Supervisors shall set the Permit fees for ambulance services, critical care transport services, non-emergency transport services and Air Medical dispatch fees, by resolution. The fees shall not exceed the reasonable costs of administering and enforcing this Division as determined by the Board of Supervisors.

## **CHAPTER 6**

### **OPERATIONAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS GROUND AMBULANCE AND CRITICAL CARE TRANSPORT SERVICES**

SECTION 610.601 AMBULANCE DRIVERS AND AMBULANCE ATTENDANTS. Any ambulance attendant or ambulance driver utilized by a Permittee shall be at least 18 years of age; shall be trained and competent in the proper use of all emergency ambulance equipment; shall hold current certification as an Emergency Medical Technician-I (EMT-I) or EMT-Paramedic (EMT-P) licensed in California; or be licensed as a physician or registered nurse in the State of California, and shall demonstrate compliance with all applicable State laws and regulations.

SECTION 610.602 UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE. Each person providing ambulance service or critical care transportation service under this Ordinance shall staff each ambulance with appropriate personnel who shall wear clean uniforms that identify employer or sponsoring agency, have visible identification of name and certification level, and comply with the requirements of this Ordinance.

SECTION 610.603 DISPATCHERS. Each person providing ambulance service or critical care transportation service under this Division shall assign at least one person or an agency to be responsible for receiving calls and dispatching ambulances.

SECTION 610.604 CHP PERMIT. Except for those ambulances operated by a governmental agency, every ambulance shall carry a valid California Highway Patrol Inspection Permit authorizing the use of the vehicle as an ambulance.

SECTION 610.605 INSPECTION. The ambulance provider or critical care transport provider shall allow the Permit Officer or his/her designee to inspect, on an announced or unannounced basis all ambulances used to provide ambulance service. The inspections should be held, whenever possible, during normal business hours; provided, however, that the inspection of an ambulance will be stopped should the ambulance be needed to respond to an Emergency Call. The purpose of such inspections may include, but shall not be limited to, determining if:

- (a) the ambulance is properly maintained and equipped for the provision of Ambulance Service;
- (b) the description of the ambulance, required by Section 610.203 (d) is accurate;

(c) the ambulance contains two-way radios; that the radios are in good working order and that the radios are compatible with the County's emergency medical communications system;

(d) if the ambulance is used for critical care transport, that the communication system allows the ambulance driver and ambulance attendant to communicate with the medical staff at both the discharging and receiving facilities; and

(e) the permitted agency is providing services at the care level authorized by the permit issued.

SECTION 610.607 INSURANCE. Every applicant for an ambulance Provider's and/or Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit shall obtain and maintain in full force and effect liability insurance, including, but not limited to, comprehensive auto liability, each with a combined single limit of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence, and professional liability, with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 per claim.

SECTION 610.608 WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE REQUIREMENT. The County Department of Health Services shall not grant any Ambulance Provider's and/or Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit unless the applicant files with the Permit Officer a policy of Workers' Compensation Insurance or a Certificate of Consent to Self Insure issued by the California State Director of Industrial Relations, applicable to all employees of the applicant. The Permittee shall thereafter maintain in full force and effect such coverage during the term of the Permit. Certificates or copies evidencing such coverage shall be provided to and maintained by the County Department of Health Services.

SECTION 610.609 SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) Each ambulance provider shall provide ambulance service on a continuous 24 hours per day basis, excluding circumstances beyond the control of the provider.

(b) If for any reason an ambulance provider stops providing ambulance service on a continuous 24 hours per day basis, any advertisement of emergency services which have been discontinued will stop and immediate notification will be given to the Permit Officer.

(c) Special event permittees shall be exempt from the requirement of 24 hours per day provision of service.

SECTION 610.610 FACILITIES.

(a) Each ambulance provider shall establish at least one ambulance station. All such locations shall comply with all applicable zoning, building, and occupational health and safety regulations.

(b) Each ambulance station shall be adequate to house the ambulance drivers and ambulance attendants required for the ambulances based at that location. Cooking facilities, rest rooms, showers, and beds sufficient for all personnel on duty are required for all stations.

(c) The Permit Officer shall cause to be made an inspection of the facilities, equipment and methods of operation of each permittee.

SECTION 610.611 INVESTIGATIONS. Ambulance Provider and Critical Care Transport Provider Permittees shall cooperate with the Permit Officer, or his/her designee, in any investigations of possible violations of this Division and shall make all dispatch logs and similar dispatch records, including tape recordings, available for inspection and copying at reasonable times at the permittee's regular place of business. All tape recordings will remain available for a minimum of 90 days from the date the recordings are made.

SECTION 610.612 POLICIES/PROCEDURES/PROTOCOLS. The Permit Officer shall make necessary and reasonable policies/procedures/protocols covering ambulance service/critical care transport service operations, equipment, personnel, and standards of dispatch for the effective and reasonable administration of this Division.

SECTION 610.613 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS. Ambulance providers and critical care transport providers shall:

- (a) Refer any Private Call of a life threatening nature or a Private Call requiring Advanced Life Support (ALS) level care where ALS care is timely, appropriate and available, to the 911 emergency operator;
- (b) Dispatch an ambulance within a reasonable time in response to an emergency call from a person, unless such person is immediately advised of a delay in responding to a call;
- (c) Disclose to any person requesting service those instances when an ambulance is not available for an emergency call;
- (d) Provide prompt transportation of the patient to the most appropriate medical facility, licensed, equipped, and staffed to meet the needs of the patient in accordance with applicable laws, rules, regulations and policies; and
- (e) Record all telephone and radio calls for ambulance service.

SECTION 610.614 PROHIBITIONS. Ambulance providers and critical care transport providers are hereby prohibited from engaging in the following activities:

- (a) Using a scanner or radio monitoring device for the purposes of responding to a call when not requested to respond to that call by an individual requesting that service or the appropriate public safety dispatch center;
- (b) Permitting the operation of an ambulance in any manner contrary to the provisions of this Division or contrary to any applicable statute, rule or regulation;
- (c) Performing ambulance services or services of a critical care transport provider unless possessing a current, valid Ambulance Provider's Permit or a current, valid Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit, respectively;
- (d) Providing advanced life support services to any person or institution without a contract or subcontract with the County for the provision of such services;

- (e) Announcing, advertising, or offering:
  - (1) Ambulance service without possessing a current, valid, Ambulance Provider's Permit; or
  - (2) Advanced life support services without being authorized by the County to provide such service; or
  - (3) Critical care transport services without possessing a current, valid Critical Care Transport or Air Ambulance Provider's Permit.
- (f) Causing or allowing ambulances to respond to a location without first receiving a specific request for ambulance service at that location.

## **CHAPTER 7**

### **OPERATIONAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS NON EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION**

#### **SECTION 610.701 PERSONNEL STANDARDS.**

- (a) All persons serving as gurney van and/or wheelchair van drivers shall be at least 18 years of age and possess a current California Driver's License, designated class III/C or higher.
- (b) All persons serving as gurney van and/or wheelchair van attendants shall possess at least a current American Red Cross Standard First Aid Certification or equivalent.
- (c) No person shall act in the capacity of a Gurney Van and/or Wheelchair Van driver or attendant if such person is required by law to register as a sex offender or has been convicted of any criminal offense involving force, duress, threat, or intimidation within the last five years.
  - (1) Any exempt organization or entity may request for a fee to have any driver who operates a non-emergency medical vehicle receive a pre-employment criminal records check in accordance with the standards set forth by this Division.
  - (2) The fee for this service shall be established in the fee document and shall cover the actual cost of administering the provisions of (c) (1).
- (d) All persons acting as gurney van and/or wheelchair van drivers or attendants shall wear clean uniforms that identify employer or sponsoring agency, have visible identification of name and comply with the requirements of this Division.

**SECTION 610.702 VEHICLE COMPLIANCE.** Each gurney van and/or wheelchair van used by a non-emergency transport provider shall, at all times:

- (a) Comply with all applicable federal, state, and local licensing requirements.
- (b) Be configured, licensed and maintained pursuant to all state and federal laws, and local policies.
- (c) Aircraft shall be configured in accordance with the San Diego County Air Medical Service Plan.

SECTION 610.703 VEHICLE INSPECTION. The non-emergency transport provider will allow the Permit Officer or his/her designee to inspect, on an announced or unannounced basis, all vehicles used to provide non-emergency transport service. The inspections should be held, whenever possible, during normal business hours. The purpose of such inspections may include, but shall not be limited to determining if the vehicle is properly maintained and equipped for the provision of non-emergency transport service.

SECTION 610.704 INSURANCE. Every applicant for a Non-Emergency Transport Providers Permit shall obtain and maintain in full force and effect liability insurance, including, but not limited to, comprehensive auto liability, each with a combined single limit of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence, and general liability, with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 per claim.

SECTION 610.705 WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE REQUIREMENT. The County Department of Health Services shall not grant a Non-Emergency Transport Provider's Permit unless the applicant files with the Permit Officer a policy of Workers' Compensation Insurance or a Certificate of Consent to Self Insure issued by the California State Director of Industrial Relations, applicable to all employees of the applicant. The Permittee shall thereafter maintain in full force and effect such coverage during the term of the Permit. Certificates or copies evidencing such coverage shall be provided to and maintained by the County Department of Health Services.

SECTION 610.706 POLICIES/PROCEDURES/PROTOCOLS. The Permit Officer shall make necessary and reasonable policies/procedures/protocols covering non-emergency medical transport service operations, equipment, and personnel, for the effective and reasonable administration of this Division.

## **CHAPTER 8**

### **OPERATIONAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS AIR MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION**

SECTION 610.801. All personnel involved in the provision of air medical services in San Diego County shall be licensed, certified, equipped and trained to levels required to safely and consistently respond and provide care in the flight environment.

- (a) ALS Air Ambulance Medical/Patient care staff shall have relevant training and experience in the care of the patient and meet the qualifications of the role within which they are functioning.

(b) Primary response rotorcraft shall maintain minimum staffing of one Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) and one California Registered Nurse or physician & surgeon for each responding flight crew.

(c) Interfacility rotorcraft air ambulances shall be staffed with at least two medical care providers, one of whom shall be a California Registered Nurse or a licensed Physician and Surgeon, appropriate to the level of care required by the patient as determined by the transferring and receiving physicians.

SECTION 610.802 UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE. Each person providing air medical services under this Ordinance shall staff each aircraft with appropriate personnel who shall wear appropriate uniforms and protective equipment that identify employer or sponsoring agency, have visible identification of name and certification level, and comply with the requirements of this Ordinance.

SECTION 610.803 AIRCRAFT COMPLIANCE. Air ambulances which are designated or permitted as primary response air medical providers shall meet or exceed the requirements set out in California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 8, Section 100302 and 100306.

SECTION 610.804 AIRCRAFT INSPECTION. The air medical services provider shall allow the Permit Officer or his/her designee to inspect, on an announced or unannounced basis, all aircraft used to provide air medical services. The inspections should be held, whenever possible, during normal business hours; provided, however, that the inspection of an aircraft will be stopped should the aircraft be needed to respond to an Emergency Call. The purpose of such inspections may include, but shall not be limited to, determining if:

(a) the aircraft is properly configured, maintained and equipped for the provision of air medical service;

(b) the description of the aircraft required by the San Diego County Emergency Medical Services Air Medical Services Plan is accurate;

(c) the permitted agency is providing services at the care level authorized by the permit issued.

SECTION 610.805 INSURANCE. Every applicant for an Air Ambulance providers permit shall obtain and maintain in full force liability insurance including but not limited to comprehensive aircraft liability, each with a combined single limit of not less than \$10,000,000 per occurrence and professional liability with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000 per claim. Primary response rotorcraft applicants shall obtain and maintain in full force liability insurance including but not limited to comprehensive aircraft liability, each with a combined single limit of not less than \$50,000,000 per occurrence and professional liability of not less than \$50,000,000 per claim.

SECTION 610.806 WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE  
REQUIREMENT. The County Department of Health Services shall not grant any Ambulance/Transport Permit unless the applicant files with the Permit Officer a policy of Workers' Compensation Insurance or a Certificate of Consent to Self Insure issued by the California State

Director of Industrial Relations, applicable to all employees of the applicant. The Permittee shall thereafter maintain in full force and effect such coverage during the term of the Permit. Certificates or copies evidencing such coverage shall be provided to and maintained by the County Department of Health Services.

SECTION 610.807. SERVICE REQUIREMENTS. Primary Response Rotorcraft providers shall be available to provide primary response rotorcraft services to medical incident scenes 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Notwithstanding the above, the pilot in command shall have full authority to abort or decline response to any request for service when mechanical, geographic, or flight conditions might endanger the crew or others.

SECTION 610.808 FACILITIES.

(a) Each air medical services provider shall establish at least one base of operations. All such locations shall comply with all applicable zoning, building, and occupational health and safety regulations.

(b) Each base of operations shall be adequate to house the aircraft crew required for the aircraft based at that location. Cooking facilities, rest rooms, showers, and beds sufficient for all personnel on duty are required for all bases. Alternate temporary posting locations shall be adequate to protect the crew and include toilet and rest facilities as determined by the Permit Officer.

(c) The Permit Officer shall cause to be made an inspection of the facilities, equipment and methods of operation of each permittee.

SECTION 610.809 INVESTIGATIONS. Air Medical Services Provider Permittees shall cooperate with the Permit Officer, or his/her designee, in any investigations of possible violations of this Division and shall make all dispatch logs and similar dispatch records, including tape recordings, available for inspection and copying at reasonable times at the permittee's regular place of business. All tape recordings will remain available for a minimum of 90 days from the date the recordings are made.

SECTION 610.810 POLICIES/PROCEDURES/PROTOCOLS. The Permit Officer shall make necessary and reasonable policies/procedures/protocols covering air medical services operations, equipment, personnel, and standards of dispatch for the effective and reasonable administration of this Division.

SECTION 610.811 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS. Air medical services providers shall:

(a) Dispatch an aircraft within a reasonable time in response to an emergency call from a person, unless such person is immediately advised of a delay in responding to a call;

(b) Disclose to any person requesting service those instances when an aircraft is not available for an emergency call;

(c) Provide prompt transportation of the patient to the most appropriate medical facility, licensed, equipped, and staffed to meet the needs of the patient in accordance with applicable laws, rules, regulations and policies; and

- (d) Record all telephone and radio calls for air medical services.

SECTION 610.812 PROHIBITIONS. Air medical services providers are hereby prohibited from engaging in the following activities:

- (a) Using a scanner or radio monitoring device for the purposes of responding to a call when not requested to respond to that call by an individual requesting that service or the appropriate public safety dispatch center;
- (b) Permitting the operation of an aircraft in any manner contrary to the provisions of this Division or contrary to any applicable statute, rule or regulation;
- (c) Performing air medical services unless possessing a current, valid Air Ambulance Provider's Permit or a current, valid Critical Care Transport Provider's Permit, respectively;
- (d) Providing advanced life support services to any person or institution without a contract or subcontract with the County for the provision of such services;
- (e) Announcing, advertising, or offering:
  - (1) Air medical services without possessing a current, valid Air Ambulance Provider's Permit; or
  - (2) Advanced life support services without being authorized by the County to provide such service; or
  - (3) Critical care transport services without possessing a current, valid Air Ambulance Provider's Permit.



## SAN DIEGO COUNTY AMBULANCE ORDINANCE FEES

<u>ALS / BLS / CCT PROVIDERS</u>	<u>NEW</u>	<u>RENEWAL</u>
Provider permit	\$ 2,000	\$1,000
Per vehicle inspection		
BLS	250	250
ALS/CCT	375	375
CCT Kits	125	125
Reinspection fee		\$125
<u>NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL VEHICLES PROVIDERS</u>	<u>NEW</u>	<u>RENEWAL</u>
Permit by application	\$ 3,000	\$1,500
Permit by endorsement	50	50
Non-emergency vehicle inspection (if required)	250	250
Criminal record check processing fee		\$38 each
<u>AIR AMBULANCE</u>		
Primary Response Rotorcraft	\$15,000	\$7,500
Interfacility Rotorcraft	2,000	1,000
Aircraft inspection (rotorcraft only)	500	500
Air Medical dispatch fee		\$30
Criminal record check processing fee		\$38 each

\*Partial year vehicle/aircraft/CCT kit permits shall be prorated at the rate of 1/12 of the annual fee for each month remaining in the Operator's Permit.

**NOTE:** A vehicle reinspection fee will be assessed for each vehicle not passing a reinspection within 48 hours of the initial vehicle inspection.